

I oppose loosening the rules designed to promote and protect diversity of media ownership. These rules were adopted to ensure that the public would receive a diverse range of viewpoints from the media, and not simply the opinions of a handful of media conglomerates.

As a university professor, every year I meet a new batch of American citizens in the making. As I attempt to aid them in identifying and accessing a rich and diverse set of information on current events, both domestic and international, I find it shocking how homogeneous and biased our national media have come to be. For privileged college students, with unlimited access to the internet and to the extensive resources of excellent libraries, many alternatives are available. Millions of other Americans, however, are confined to the limited and distorted "news" dished out by a small number of corporate providers. Further erosion of the rules protecting a modicum of media diversity would do a grave disservice to our democracy.